

## Access: Riverside

A Central Campus of Hope for Homeless Residents of Riverside

## The History

In June of 2003, the City of Riverside adopted the "Riverside Community Broad-Based Homeless Action Plan". Since its adoption, the City has pro-actively pursued implementation of the action-based strategies within the plan as well as other initiatives in partnership with the County of Riverside and a broad range of non-profit organizations, social service agencies, faith-based institutions, and others working together under the umbrella of the Riverside Homeless Care Network to address the issue of homelessness in our community. A pivotal goal within the City's Homeless Action Plan is the creation of a centralized environment to provide an array of housing and supportive services designed to assist homeless individuals and families to address their issues and achieve housing stability. Modeled after the PATH Mall concept and similar models across the county, the campus will offer a coordinated system of care that includes strategic outreach, crisis intervention, interim housing, rapid re-housing, homeless prevention resources and coordinated case management. A central theme of the new campus environment will be a collaborative focus on nationally acclaimed best practice strategies, such as "Housing First" and other rapid re-housing approaches, centered on one goal: to end the cycle of homelessness in our community.

## The Vision

The cul-de-sac at Hulen Place is being transformed into A ONE-STOP MULTI-SERVICE CAMPUS environment for homeless residents and those at-risk of becoming homeless in Riverside, where individuals and families can walk into one door and find access to the full range of services and housing opportunities available in this community.

Building A - Multi-Service Access Center - Shall serve as the entry point and service hub of the city's continuum of care offering a wide-range of services under-one-roof including street outreach, housing placement, employment development, benefits enrollment, health care, mental health services, substance abuse recovery, veterans' services, life skills training, education services, financial counseling, legal services, client stabilization resources, computer resources, transportation assistance, and homeless prevention resources. All services will be coordinated through centralized data management and a collaborative team case management approach. (Phase I in operation).

<u>Building B - Riverside Emergency Shelter</u> – 64-bed facility, operated by Path of Life Ministries in partnership with the City, provides year-round shelter connected with case management services for homeless men and women for up to 30 continuous days. From December through mid-April, an additional 72 beds are provided on a night-by-night basis under the federal cold weather shelter initiative in cooperation with the County. Approximately 1,500 individuals are served at the facility on an annual basis. (Currently Operational)

<u>Building C - Safe Haven Supportive Housing and Drop-in Center</u> – "The Place" Safe Haven program, operated by Jefferson Transitional Programs in partnership with the County Department of Mental Health, provides 25 permanent supportive housing beds and a 24-hour drop-in center for chronically homeless individuals with severe mental illness. (Currently Operational)

<u>Building D - SmartRiverside Digital Inclusion Program</u> - The Digital Inclusion Program provides skills training and jobs for at-risk youth in computer technologies and provides basic computer skills training classes along with a free refurbished PC for home use to low-income households in Riverside. (Currently Operational)

<u>Pet Kennel</u> – A safe place for Emergency Shelter and Access Center guests to house their companion animals during their stay, allowing homeless people with pets to access services without giving up their best friend. (Under Development).

